



EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV192308711US

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. BMA-008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Laugharn et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/812,723 GROUP NO.: 1723
FILING DATE: March 20, 2001 EXAMINER: Soohoo
TITLE: Method and Apparatus For Acoustically Controlling Liquid
Solutions in Microfluidic Devices

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 12, 2002. A petition and appropriate fee for a five month extension of time, up to and including Wednesday, March 12, 2003, are submitted herewith.

AMENDMENT

Please cancel claims 1-37, 41-42, 44, 46, 48-50, 52-53, 55-62, 64-67, 69-76, 78-112, 116-117, 119, 121, 123-125, 127-128, 130-136, 138-141, and 143-150 without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue their subject matter in this application or in a related application. Please amend claims 39, 40, 68, 77, and 115 to read as follows:

39. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein said step of directing said acoustic field comprises, focussing said acoustic field to said at least one nucleation feature.
40. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein said step of directing said acoustic field comprises, adjusting a relative position between said acoustic source and said at least one